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# Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EB-07 ISO-00 /017 W
---------- 048143
R 310400Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9147
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG

UNCLAS SEOUL 6809

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BENC, KS
SUBJECT: MAJOR PROJECT - MIHO WATERSHED AREA DEVELOPMENT

1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: THE ROK MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES (MOAF) IS NEGOTIATING A LOAN OF APPROXIMATELY DOLLARS 29 MILLION FROM THE WORLD BANK (IBRD) TO FINANCE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MIHO WATERSHED AREA IN CENTRAL KOREA. THE PROJECT INCLUDES SEVERAL ELEMENTS: (A) CONSTRUCTION OF DAMS AND CANALS TO IRRIGATE ABOUT 8,315 HECTARES (HA.) OF LAND; (B) CONVERSION OF ABOUT 2,045 HA OF CULTIVATED UPLAND INTO PADDY FIELDS; (C) LAND CONSOLIDATION, INCLUDING CONSTRUCTION OF DITCHES, DRAINS AND FARM ROADS TOGETHER WITH LAND LEVELLING AND BOUNDARY REALIGNMENT ON ABOUT 4,600 HA.; (D) DEVELOPMENT OF IRRIGATION FOR ABOUT 1,000 HA. OF UPLAND AND/OR PRESENTLY UNCULTIVATED UPLANDS FOR ORCHARDS; (E) CONSTRUCTION OF ABOUT 150 KM. OF VILLAGE ACCESS ROADS; AND (F) FEASIBILITY STUDIES FOR A SECOND STAGE PROJECT IN THE REMAINING 110,000 HA. OF THE MIHO WATER-SHED AREA.

2. IMPLEMENTING OFFICE:

MR. OH WAN-SOO, CHIEF,
SPECIAL AREA DEVELOPMENT DIVISION,
FARMLAND BUREAU,
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MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES,

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ROOM #1314, 13TH FLOOR,
UNIFIED GOVERNMENT BUILDING, SEOUL, KOREA

3. COST AND FINANCING: TOTALCOST OF PROJECT IS PRESENTLY ESTIMATED AT DOLLARS 75 MILLION, OF WHICH ROKG WILL USE DOLLARS 29 MILLION IN FOREIGN CURRENCY FOR LOCAL COSTS BECAUSE OF A SHART-AGE OF DOMESTIC CAPITAL. A FORMAL LOAN AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED ON AUGUST 5, 1976, BETWEEN THE ROKG AND THE IBRD FOR THAT SUM.

4. POTENTIAL U.S. SALES: U.S. INVOLVEMENT WOULD BE LIMITED TO PROJECT CONSULTANT SERVICES ESTIMATED AT DOLLARS 1.6 MILLION INCLUDING DETAILED ENGINEERING DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION AND A FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MIHO WATER SHED.

5. POST COMMENTS: AT PRESENT, MOAF IS REVIEWING THE CAPA-BILITIES OF CONSULTING FIRMS FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO PREPARE A SHORT LIST OF POTENTIAL FOREIGN CONSULTANTS. ALTHOUGH EMBASSY HAS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED U.S. FIRMS' EXPERTISE, WE SUGGEST THAT THEY SHOULD ESTABLISH DIRECT CONTACT WITH MR. OH INDICATING THEIR DESIRE TO BE PREQUALIFIED AS CONSULTANTS FOR THE PROJECT.
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**TAGS:** BENC, KS
**To:** COM
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